

Chris O'Brien

From: Jordan Goyette <goyettejordan@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2021 8:39 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Testimony in favor of H 5452

To Chairman Abney & members of the committee,

In the face of what the misguided War on Drugs have done to overwhelmingly already disadvantaged black & brown communities, passing H 5452 should be a no-brainer. Especially as we are considering full cannabis legalization, doing so without including proposals like this should be a non-starter. Those most affected by criminalization should get more than their fair share of the benefits from legalization. The provisions regarding expunging related convictions is especially important to removing barriers for people disparately impacted by cannabis criminalization to enter into this new industry. And they do need the most support for getting started, which is why the establishment of a loan program for these applicants is crucial too. Requiring DBR to do these things is just common sense in light of what this population has faced, and our cannabis program must be diverse and equitable.

Thank You,

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Sent from my iPhone